



**Press release**

**14 November 2011  
For immediate use**

**David Howell joins the GCC today as Chief Executive and Registrar**



**David Howell**

**David Howell**, CB, OBE, MBE has joined the General Chiropractic Council today, 14 November 2011, as Chief Executive and Registrar.

David was previously the Director of Regulatory Services at the General Optical Council, and prior to that the Director General - Army Legal Services; a post he held at the rank of Major General, for more than seven years.

A barrister by background, his experience ranged from conducting the most serious criminal cases through to non-criminal cases, employment, administrative and international law. He represented the UK in international treaty negotiations including setting up of the International Criminal Court.

David said, "I am delighted to be joining the GCC at such an exciting time. The GCC, like all healthcare regulators, faces a number of challenges, including the impact of the Command Paper, 'Enabling Excellence' and the Law Commission's review of the legislative framework for statutory regulation.

The GCC has already begun a process of reform and there are opportunities to modernise and streamline our statutory processes further, so ensuring that the GCC remains fit-for-purpose for the future. My priorities are that the GCC is robust in its planning, while strongly representing the interests of the patients and the public. We will work with our stakeholders to achieve this, and Council and the Executive Team will work closely to deliver our strategic aims".

The Chairman of the GCC Peter Dixon said, "The GCC has a challenging agenda and David will have a key role in ensuring that we are fit-for-purpose in the years ahead. David brings in-depth skill and experience that will enhance our public protection activities, and I am looking forward to working with him very much".

**- ENDS -**

## **Notes to Editors**

### **About the GCC**

The General Chiropractic Council (GCC) is an independent UK-wide statutory health regulator set up to protect the public. It sets standards for chiropractors' competence, conduct and health and will take action against chiropractors who fail to meet them.

A range of information, including a list of chiropractors, is available on [www.gcc-uk.org](http://www.gcc-uk.org)

### **Contact**

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